

CHEAP INSURANCE---THE "IRREDUCIBLE MINIMUM" FOR PEACE ARMY AND NAVY

(BY H. D. S.)

WHAT constitutes preparedness? The Herald has been asked this question many times lately; it has evidently become a live topic. The Herald advocates a permanent military and naval establishment and a reserve system duly proportioned to the need for protection of our elemental national rights against unjust aggression.

The Herald's policy of national preparedness may be summed up in a sentence: Never provoke a fight and never lose one. As the prophet says, "Do justice and love mercy," but it must not be forgotten that we have a "right to peace" and a right to life, liberty, and safety, which must be protected--even by use of armed force if, after fair trial and earnest effort, all other means should have failed.

In 1865 the United States had the most powerful army and navy in the world.

That fact did not cause us to go about hunting trouble.

But it may also be remembered that merely spotting a small sample of that army on the Mexican border was sufficient to cause Europe to give up her scheme of a Mexican empire.

In 1865 the people were justly tired of war and all its works. The most powerful army in the world was quietly and quickly disbanded. The navy was allowed to rot and rust away to almost nothing.

It is not going too far to say that during the quarter century after the civil war, the little regular army that was allowed to exist was despised, by the "people" and by their representatives in Congress. Its work lay mostly on the frontiers, far from political influence and important centers of publicity and population. The fanatics went wild on the Indian question, and damned the army in all the words of scripture. Such men as Sherman and Sheridan, Schofield, Crook, and Miles, even Grant in his military capacity, were looked upon by the extreme pacifists of that sorrowful period as worthy of no attention or consideration when they made recommendations for the proper establishment of the permanent military force. Naval commanders of honorable record were likewise made to feel that they were not wanted in the new scheme of things.

To get a full idea of the unjust and shortsighted manner in which the army and navy were treated in these years, the reader is recommended to study the life and work of Thomas Nast, the greatest American cartoonist; the memoirs of the great commanders, and the debates in Congress. It makes a shameful record.

The new navy had its first powerful advocate in William E. Chandler, secretary of the navy under President Arthur's administration; but actual constructive work was begun by William C. Whitney, navy secretary under President Cleveland, who laid the foundations of the system of regular progressive construction of modern ships. Secretary Tracy under President Harrison carried the plan along with splendid enthusiasm. The 20 years that had elapsed between the end of the civil war and the Whitney administration had just about disposed of the last of the ships that had served in the war. The navy in those days was nothing but junk. But by the time of the Spanish war we had made a fair start at rebuilding in line with modern needs.

The army did not begin to come back into its rightful place until after the Spanish war. So late as 1895, when President Cleveland and secretary Olney threatened war against England over a Venezuelan boundary, there was not a single modern coast defense gun in position anywhere on our coast, or a single modern fortification. When the Spanish war came, we had an army of about 23,000 on paper, of which not much more than half was available for active field service on short notice. The public is sufficiently familiar with the early fiasco, and with the struggle to obtain a moderate increase to meet our new responsibilities in the war, and after the war in the island possessions.

Today we have an army of approximately 83,000. But this is what happens to it when we begin to examine it: deduct 10,000 non-combatants, the special services that are necessary to an army, yet not in any fighting line; deduct another 17,000, in the United States in the coast artillery, hardly enough to handle the coast defense guns, and not a man to spare to defend the works from land attack; deduct another 21,000 troops serving outside of the United States, in the Philippines, Alaska, Hawaii, Porto Rico, Panama, and elsewhere on foreign duty; we have left nominally 31,000 men; but take from that little army all who are needed on detached duty of various kinds, such as staffs, instruction, and protection of public property, and all who are unfit for duty, and the "mobile army" of this nation of 115,000,000 people, the whole army we can count on for the real strength of the "first line" in case of need, is about 25,000 men.

These 25,000 are scattered all over the continent, and would be a good deal more scattered if the Mexican disturbance for several years had not necessitated the concentration of more than half of the mobile army on the border. We have taken no account in this, of the organized militia, which is subject to call. Possibly 50,000 men might respond promptly, but a large proportion of those would be comparatively inexperienced and by no means equal to the regular troops, though they would perform have to be put in the "first line."

New York city's police force numbers about 1 in 500 of the population. Other great cities have proportionately large police forces. The police force of smaller cities numbers about 1 in 1,000.

Now, to reach some basis on which to decide what might be meant by a minimum degree of "preparedness," for a regular army establishment, we should say that 35,000 or 40,000 men should be provided for regular permanent duty outside the United States proper, and that the proportion of 1 in 1,000 should be adopted as a minimum for continental United States; that is, we should have 100,000 men in the regular army today within the United States proper. This would increase the "mobile army" from 25,000 effective to say 50,000 or 55,000--the remainder would be otherwise engaged, as above outlined.

Stated this way--1 soldier to 1,000 of the population--doesn't the "menace of militarism" sound rather absurd?

Now to take up some other problems of the army establishment for national protection:

First, the reserve. The regular army itself may find a way in time to build up a first reserve. But it is the Herald's conviction that every able bodied man in the country after he reaches the age of 18 (if not previously given this much in school) should have some sort of instruction in elementary military knowledge; he should be given a little theory and a little application, he should have a little knowledge of the use of the military rifle, he should have some instruction in marching, and drill, he should be taught how to care for himself, and he should be made to comprehend in some measure the necessity of implicit obedience and given a taste of working as a unit in an organization. He should have a certain amount of experience in actual maneuvers.

All this take only a few weeks in all, out of his adult lifetime, and most of it would come in the first three years between 18 and 21. After that, it would be a question only of an occasional checking up on advanced knowledge, and perhaps an occasional routine inspection and report with a view to registration of available volunteers.

The volunteer question may safely be left to take care of itself. There will never be any lack of men. But this plan would be a life saver and a result getter in case of need. Every boy and man in the country would be directly benefited by it, and not at all interfered with. There is no "militarism" in this--only common sense and common humanity.

Second, supply of officers of a volunteer army. This can only be insured by turning out more trained men every year and sending them back into civil life after a year in the service, thereafter to be subject to call for a short period, then left to volunteer. The government schools should turn out trained men by the thousands instead of the hundreds. Private and state military schools should be given greater encouragement.

The effort should be to build up a reserve of trained officer material in civil life, not to withdraw men from ordinary occupations to be professional soldiers. Men thus given elementary training for possible volunteer officers would naturally be held up to certain requirements of study, practice, and experience during their period in the first reserve. But this would not mean any considerable loss of time, or interference with ordinary life. From these young men, largely, instructors for cadets might be drawn, during their year of service after leaving school, thus sparing the regular army officers from these details.

It must be borne in mind that an army of 1,000,000 men requires 60,000 officers--it is a monstrous work to train your officers after war is on, with raw troops as the material for experimentation. It is doubtful if we have even 20,000 men in the United States today fit as they stand to command troops in the field in case of serious war. There is abundant prime material, but untrained, inexperienced, or out of touch with the service.

Third, large-scale maneuvers and mobilization practice. These form a necessary part of any efficient reserve system. They should be regularly held, and alternated to cover different parts of the country successively.

Fourth, designation of units by states. It would do much to popularize the army if organizations so far as possible had state names, and if they were recruited and officered largely from special states or sections, with a service record of each unit as a continuing body, and the territorial idea kept to the fore. The service outside of continental United States should be separately organized and kept intact.

Fifth, concentration of posts and consolidation of units. The present system by which each regiment is distributed in widely different places is without any justification.

Sixth, limitation of detached service in the regular establishment. So far as possible, units should be kept intact, officers with their commands.

Seventh, war material. This is a matter for the military authorities and Congress to handle. It interests the public only indirectly. Certainly there should be such provision at all times as would allow of a quick movement in case of sudden need, and sufficient reserve supply to fill the requirements until the manufacturing resources of the country could be brought into full play.

This problem is far less acute than it was a year ago. Due to the European war, scores, perhaps hundreds, of factories in this country have installed machinery to make all sorts of war material. This machinery will be of service hereafter when needed. Probably the present manufacturing capacity of the country is equal to any need that could arise. The main thing is to see that the country does not lapse into its old apathy: it took many months to get ready, and the lesson ought not to be lost.

As to the navy, it ought to be kept up to the highest pitch of efficiency at all times, and in size at least second in the world. But the old idea that a powerful navy and coast defenses were everything necessary for our protection has about been given up. England's navy has so far protected her from invasion, but the situation of England and the United States is totally different, owing to our vast extent of coast. We cannot safely hold our ships all in one locality. And we must have an adequate land force available, or our navy would not suffice to defend us from serious injury if attacked by a cunning, powerful, and desperate foe.

The Herald looks upon these precautions as the cheapest form of insurance against a disturbance of our national peace. In no way do they constitute a menace, or tempt to aggression, or impose an unnecessary burden.

One regular soldier to 1,000 population in continental United States; adequate forces in outlying possessions besides; a thorough reserve system; adequate regular supply of trained officers returned to civil life and available for a volunteer army in case of need--these are the main suggestions upon which all Americans will do well to bestow earnest consideration. If we neglect these elementary precautions, it will be useless to imagine ourselves safe.

Thousand Islands Are Owned Jointly By Canada, United States and Many Millionaire Resorters

THE Thousand Islands are located in the St. Lawrence river and are owned jointly by the United States and Canada and a large number of millionaire summer resorters.

Like everything else in the new world, the islands have greatly increased in number. There are now supposed to be almost 10,000 of them, though their number is thought to be stretching the truth when he named them. They vary in size from a Vermont pancake to an Illinois farm and are built for the most part of the most substantial variety of rock. They have been there for thousands of years and yet even the smallest of them show little wear.

There is no more fascinating sport than that of navigating the St. Lawrence river through the archipelago, threading the narrow passages between tiny domains and tracking down the tiny, which inhabit the dark corners under the rocks. Steamers run through the principal channels and large boats are perched upon many of the islands so that the tourist may explore them to his heart's content.

The Thousand Islands offer a fine opportunity to the man who wants to own

an island of his own. The stock is practically inexhaustible and large numbers of all sizes are still left on the bargain counter. Hundreds of men

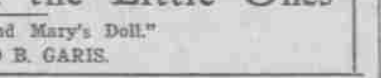
have bought islands large enough to fit a summer cottage ranging in size from two rooms to two acres and retire for the summer. Nothing is more fascinating than to stroll around these beautiful chunks of water-washed and with a large measure of success to find a waterweight island which will hold a front porch and a piano without overcrowding and is located half an hour by canoe from the nearest grocery store.

Still while the Thousand Islands are very fine for residence purposes they are a great nuisance in navigation. No one should attempt to ramble down the St. Lawrence through these islands, by canoe any time of the year. A man who has steered his own motor boat fearlessly through the great lakes has encountered this celebrated congregation of islands and after hitting three or four of them ringing blows without inflicting any more damage on them than that which Johnson did on Jean Willard has had to proceed by train.

Americans should visit the Thousand Islands and count them carefully before venturing any time on the time and overvalued islands of Venice.

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"They Vary in Size."



Bedtime Story for the Little Ones

"Uncle Wiggly and Mary's Doll."

By HOWARD B. GARIS.

"MA! MA! Make Jimmie stop!" called Mary Caw-Caw, the little black-crow girl, one morning, as she was out on the front porch of the nest house, ready to go to school. "Make him stop, ma!"

"What are you doing now, Jimmie Caw-Caw?" asked Aunt Filmy-Filmy, as she carefully parted her feathers in the middle, so there would not be too many on one side, and then she looked sideways, as she very often did when unbalanced.

"Jimmie's pulling my feathers, ma! that's what he's doing," called Mary. "Now, you stop, Jimmie!"

"Yes Jimmie stop it at once," said the crow lady. "I'm surprised at you. I'd like him alone to school now and be good crow children!"

"Aw, a fellow can't do anything around here when Jimmie is a house voice, as he flew down to the ground. 'I'll fix you for being a tattletale,' he went on to Mary."

"Hello! Why that? What is it you are going to fix?" asked Uncle Wiggly Longears, the rabbit gentleman, as he hopped out of the hollow stump where he and Nurse Jane Fuss-Wussy, the muskrat lady, were staying while on a visit to crow-land. "Is something broken, that you are going to fix it, Jimmie? If you are, that is very nice for the lady mouse teacher helped them to study their lessons. So Jimmie did not have to answer Uncle Wiggly."

And for this the crow boy was very glad, as he felt a little ashamed of himself, as he did not want to tell about pulling his sister Mary's feathers.

"Well, well! I wonder what it was that Jimmie was going to fix?" thought Uncle Wiggly, as he gave his airship a drink of talcum powder so it would feel nice and cool when sailing through the clouds.

"Uncle Wiggly went for a ride, after Nurse Jane had given him his breakfast, and Jimmie and Mary went on to school. But they did not fly together, as they usually did."

"I'm not going to fly with you--you're a tattletale," said Jimmie to Mary.

"And I'm not going to fly with you," cause you pulled my feathers," answered Mary. Oh, dear! Such crow children!

Well, all the while during school Jimmie was wondering how he could "fix" Mary, as he called it. He wanted to play a trick on her. Mind you, I'm not saying it was the right thing to do--far be it from me to speak that way.

Anyhow, when recess came and Mary left her doll, Matilda Janet Huckleberry, lying under a dandelion plant, and Jimmie saw it, the crow boy cawed to himself, and said:

"Ah, ha! Here is where I can get even with Mary for telling me that I pulled her tail feathers. I'll hide her doll; that's what I'll do."

Well, Jimmie was looking for a place where he could stuff the doll away so Mary could not find it, when all of a sudden the crow boy thought of something else.

"I know what I'll do," he said to himself. "I'll take off the doll's legs and hide them in one place. I'll hide her

arms in another place, and then I'll take off her head and hide that in still another place. Then Mary will never find her doll. Oh, she'll be sorry she told me!"

So Jimmie, with his strong black bill, took off the doll's arms and hid them under a stone. Then he took off the doll's legs and he put them under a pile of leaves. Then he took off the doll's head and hid that in a hollow log.

The doll was a jointed, you see, and it didn't hurt to take her apart. Only, of course, it was going to make Mary, the crow girl, feel badly.

Jimmie left the rest of the doll, without arms, legs or a head lying under

the dandelion plant, as just then the school blue-bell flower rang, and it was time to go in after recess.

Of course, Mary soon remembered about her doll, that she had forgotten and left in the yard, and, as soon as school was out, the little crow girl rushed to get Matilda Janet Huckleberry. And when she saw the poor thing, without arms, and without legs or a head, Mary cried:

"Oh, dear! Oh, dear! Oh, dear! What dreadful thing has happened? Who did this?"

"I did," said Jimmie crow. I told you I'd fix you for being a tattletale. Oh, dear! sobbed Mary. "Please, Jimmie, tell me where you hid parts of my doll! Please!"

"Nope!" cawed Jimmie. "You'll ever see them again!"

"Oh, yes she will, I think!" exclaimed a jolly voice. "Jimmie, I am surprised that you should treat your little crow sister so. I'll find the arms, legs and head for you, Mary," and with that along came Uncle Wiggly Longears.

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the rabbit gentleman. "Ha! You never can find them," boasted Jimmie.

"Oh, I think I can," Uncle Wiggly said, sort of jolly and easy like. Then the rabbit gentleman went to the stone, and from underneath that he took the doll's arms, fastening them on again at the joints where they belonged.

"Can you find the rest of her?" "Yes," said Uncle Wiggly.

Then, from under the leaves Uncle Wiggly took the doll's legs, and fastened them on, and from the hollow stump he took the head and fastened that on. Soon Matilda Janet Huckleberry was whole as ever.

"You thought no one saw you hide the doll's legs, arms and head, Jimmie," said Uncle Wiggly. "But I was up in the clouds, in my airship, and I looked down and saw you. See how badly you made Mary feel when her doll was taken apart. Don't do it again; will you?"

The little crow boy hung his head and drooped his tail feathers. "I won't," he said, and he never did. So everything came out all right, and I hope you are glad, and in the next story I will tell you about Uncle Wiggly and the rubber plant, and I do hope the first day of the week doesn't get tangled up with the last day of school, so the blackboard has to stay in and out of chalk.

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Boy of your neighbor, and he'll buy of you.

THE East Wind

THE wind is in the east," the chronic croaker sighed; "that sephyr is a beast, it fills with pain my hide. Whenever east winds whiz across the dismal sea, eight kinds of rheumatism begin to torture me." So he sits down to groan, and calls for the police, and rubs his old skin bone with liniment and grease. When people thus are sure a certain wind will bring some relief, their guess comes true, by jing. For superstition makes of grief a vast amount, it brings more pains and aches than you and I could count. Now let the croaker greet the east wind with a grin, and say, "You can't be beat--the price you'll surely win! You cannot bring disease, or make my back-joints sick; no blamed old tin horn breeze can play that sort of trick!" The wind will whoop and sizz, and try to fill his frame with jumbling rheumatism, and then give up the game. If you invite disease, and say it's sure to come, the germs will strive to please, and knock you out of plumb. But if defiance bold you hand the microbe mob, the feet of germs grow cold, and they throw up the job.

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WALT MASON.

THE UNION BANDS.

Editor El Paso Herald:

Music at Cleveland square? Why not? Everybody wants the music. The only question is: Shall the government send bands to all of the playing in El Paso while the local civilian musicians take a back seat, with nothing to do? They do not want to stop the music, but they ask to be allowed one paid concert a week. The paid bands can then play as often as they will. The El Paso Union Bands have not been paid in several years. It has been entirely too easy for any lodge or society that wanted music to send their complaints to the police, who have a right to the band--and as the police wished to be accommodated when possible, the band would be placed at their disposal absolutely free, thereby depriving the local musicians of what rightfully belongs to them.

Just as well discharge the police force and ask the soldiers to patrol the city. Give the El Paso musicians a chance. W. F. Stuart.

STRONG FOR EL PASO POLICE.

Editor El Paso Herald:

Just another word about El Paso's police. I have lived in El Paso five years and did not work here about three months after I got here, but no El Paso policeman ever even attempted to bother me and I have never seen one do anything but his duty. I have always noticed that they are always ready to

CAPITAL OF ITALY.

London, N. Y., June 5, 1915.

Editor El Paso Herald:

Let me advise that the capital of Italy is Rome and not Florence as you are stating in today's El Paso Herald. P. H. Ziron.

(Florence has been designated as the temporary capital of Italy during the war--Editor.)

EL PASO HERALD

An Independent Daily Newspaper

R. D. Slater, Editor-in-Chief and controlling owner, has directed The Herald for 17 years; G. A. Martin is News Editor.

The El Paso Herald was established in March, 1881. The El Paso Herald includes also, by absorption and succession, The Daily News, The Telegraph, The Telegram, The Tribune, The Graphic, The Sun, The Advertiser, The Independent, The Journal, The Republican, The Bulletin.

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Stand Of Union On Band Concerts Is Defended; Police Commended; Public Comfort Stations Urged

Editor El Paso Herald:

I WOULD like to answer a communication published in your paper June 3, signed "Stranger."

In the first place I will say that the union musicians of El Paso have not deprived anyone of listening to the military band concerts. There are several concerts a week both at Fort Bliss and Camp Cotton. Of course, there is a drawback--the concerts are far from the city center, and the military band is the bone of contention at present.

Last summer the civilian musicians (I say "civilian musicians" because the law was not passed for the union musicians alone but for all civilian musicians) did not protest against the military bands playing, because at that time we had no band. This year it is different. We have spent a good deal of money and time outfitting and preparing our band. Now all we want is a chance.